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9 June 1982

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MCMAHON-CIA
    WASHINGTON (AP) -- THE SENATE ON WEDNESDAY UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE NOMINATION OF JOHN N. MCMAHON AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CIA.
    MCMAHON, 52, A CAREER INTELLIGENCE OFFICE, REPLACES ADM. BOBBY R. INMAN, WHO RESIGNED APRIL 24 AFTER A 30-YEAR MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE CAREER TO ENTER PRIVATE BUSINESS.
    SENS. JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., D-DEL., AND DAVE DURENBERGER, R-MINN., HAVE INDICATED THAT INMAN MIGHT HAVE RESIGNED BECAUSE OF POLICY DISAGREEMENTS WITH THE AGENCY'S DIRECTOR, WILLIAM J. CASEY.
    MCMAHON'S CONFIRMATION CAME ON A VOICE VOTE.
    DURING A 21-YEAR CAREER WITH THE CIA, MCMAHON WORKED FOR THE AGENCY'S U-2 SPY PLANE PROGRAM AND LATER MOVED TO TOP POSTS IN ELECTRONIC INTELLIGENCE, TECHNICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION OF ALL U.S. INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.
    IN EARLY 1978, HE BECAME DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS IN CHARGE OF THE CIA'S CLANDESTINE SPY NETWORK. THREE YEARS LATER, HE WAS NAMED DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR NATIONAL FOREIGN ASSESSMENTS AND LAST JANUARY WAS PROMOTED TO THE CIA'S NO. 3 POST, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.
    DURING MCMAHON'S CONFIRMATION HEARINGS BEFORE THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE, BIDEN WARNED THE NOMINEE THAT HE WOULD BE LOOKING FOR TROUBLE IF HE FAILED TO REMAIN ''STRAIGHT UP AND CANDID'' IN FUTURE DEALINGS WITH THE CONGRESS.
    BIDEN SAID HE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE STILL HAVE ''LINGERING DOUBT'' OVER WHETHER CASEY HAD PROVIDED THE PANEL WITH ''THE WHOLE TRUTH'' DURING EARLIER TESTIMONY.
    HE CAUTIONED MCMAHON THAT HE WILL FACE A ''HEAVY BURDEN'' IN SUCCEEDING INMAN, WHOM HE CALLED ''IN MANY RESPECTS, THE IDEAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.''
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